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**CHICO MAN INDICTED FOR TRANSMITTING
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ON THE INTERNET**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney John K. Vincent announced today that a federal grand jury returned a five-count indictment charging Ron Sean Arter, 22, of Chico, with sending and possessing child pornography.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Camil A. Skipper, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that Arter transported three visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, using his computer, while in an America Online ("AOL") chat room. The indictment also alleges that Arter possessed numerous computer files depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Finally, the indictment seeks forfeiture of computer equipment used to commit the offenses.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

If convicted, the maximum penalty under federal law for each offense of transporting child pornography is 15 years imprisonment. The maximum penalty for possession of child pornography is 5 years imprisonment.

This case is the product of an investigation by the FBI, with the assistance of AOL Network Security and Investigations.

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